

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite claims 1, 3 and 9 as follows:

Sub A1
A1
1. (amended) Bulk continuous filament yarn [comprising] consisting essentially of a plurality of filaments [comprising] consisting essentially of propylene polymer and having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least [about] 85%.

A2
3. (amended) The yarn of claim 1 wherein the propylene polymer [comprises] is a homopolymer polypropylene.

Sub B2
A3
9. (amended) Yarn [comprising a plurality of bulked,] consisting essentially of about 70 to about 300 substantially continuous filaments [comprising] that consist essentially of polypropylene homopolymer and have deniers of about 8 to about 30, wherein the yarn has [having] a bulk level of about 5 to about 15%, denier of about 500 to about 3000 and Plug Crush Recovery of at least [about] 85%.

Please add new claims 10-79 as follows:

10. The yarn of claim 1 wherein the propylene polymer is a copolymer of propylene and at least one copolymerizable monomer.

11. The yarn of claim 10 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.

12. The yarn of claim 11 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

13. The yarn of claim 10 wherein the propylene polymer contains at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame-retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent.

14. The yarn of claim 13 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.
15. The yarn of claim 14 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.
16. The yarn of claim 3 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.
17. The yarn of claim 16 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.
18. The yarn of claim 16 having about 40 to about 300 filaments per yarn.
19. The yarn of claim 18 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.
20. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 19.
21. The yarn of claim 19 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 90%.
22. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 16.
23. The yarn of claim 3 wherein the propylene polymer contains at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent.
24. The yarn of claim 23 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.
25. The yarn of claim 24 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.
26. The yarn of claim 24 having about 40 to about 300 filaments per yarn.

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cont

27. The yarn of claim 26 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

28. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 27.

29. The yarn of claim 28 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 90%.

30. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 24.

31. Yarn consisting essentially of a plurality of continuous filaments and having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20% and a Plug Crush Recovery of at least 85%, wherein the filaments consist essentially of a homopolymer polypropylene or a homopolymer polypropylene having incorporated therein at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent.

32. Yarn according to claim 31 having about 5 to about 2400 filaments per yarn wherein the filaments have deniers of about one-half to about 100.

33. Yarn according to claim 31 having about 70 to about 300 filaments per yarn and a denier of about 500 to about 3000.

34. Yarn according to claim 33 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

35. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 34.

36. Yarn according to claim 33 having a bulk level of about 8 to about 16%.

37. Yarn according to claim 36 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

38. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 37.

39. Yarn according to claim 36 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 90%.

40. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 33.

41. Yarn consisting essentially of a plurality of bulked continuous filaments and having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least 85%, wherein the filaments consist essentially of a propylene polymer that is at least one homopolymer polypropylene or copolymer of propylene and at least one copolymerizable monomer, or of a blend of the propylene polymer with at least one other polymer, provided that when the other polymer is a polar polymer, the blend also contains a compatibilizing agent for the polar polymer and the propylene polymer.

42. The yarn of claim 41 wherein the filaments consist essentially of a homopolymer polypropylene or homopolymer polypropylene having incorporated therein at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent.

43. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 42.

44. Fabric comprising yarn according to claim 42.

45. The yarn of claim 42 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.

46. The yarn of claim 45 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

47. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 46.

48. The yarn of claim 41 wherein the filaments consist essentially of a copolymer of propylene and at least one copolymerizable monomer in which the amount of polymerized comonomer units is up to about 10 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the polymerized propylene units, or said copolymer having incorporated therein at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent.

49. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 48.

50. Fabric comprising yarn according to claim 48.

51. The yarn of claim 48 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.

52. The yarn of claim 51 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

53. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 52.

54. The yarn of claim 41 wherein the filaments consist essentially of a blend of a propylene polymer that is a homopolymer polypropylene or a copolymer of propylene and at least one copolymerizable monomer with up to 10 parts by weight of at least one other resin per 100 hundred parts by weight of the propylene polymer, or said blend having incorporated therein at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent, provided that when the other polymer is a polar polymer, the blend also contains a compatibilizing agent for the polar polymer and the propylene polymer.

55. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 54.

56. Fabric comprising yarn according to claim 54.

57. The yarn of claim 54 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.

58. The yarn of claim 57 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

59. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 58.

60. Yarn consisting essentially of filaments consisting essentially of propylene polymer and having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 85% prepared by a process comprising the steps of melt spinning a thermoplastic resin consisting essentially of propylene polymer through at least one orifice to form at least one filament, gathering a plurality of filaments into yarn, orienting the filaments or yarn and bulking the yarn to form a product that can withstand heating at a temperature within about 20°C of the melting point of the propylene polymer, and heating the product at at least one temperature below but within about 20°C of the melting point of the propylene polymer with the filaments in a substantially relaxed state.

61. Yarn according to claim 60 wherein the thermoplastic resin includes at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent.

62. Yarn according to claim 60 wherein the propylene polymer is homopolymer polypropylene.

63. Yarn according to claim 62 wherein the filaments are continuous filaments.

64. Yarn according to claim 63 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.

65. Yarn according to claim 64 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least 85%.

66. Yarn according to claim 65 wherein the thermoplastic resin includes at least one additive that is a pigment, process aid, flame retardant, heat stabilizer, light stabilizer, antimicrobial agent, electrically conductive material, antistatic agent or stain resisting agent.

67. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 66.

68. Yarn according to claim 66 having about 40 to about 300 filaments per yarn.

69. Yarn according to claim 68 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

70. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 69.

71. The carpet of claim 70 in the form of residential carpet.

72. The carpet of claim 70 in the form of automotive carpet.

73. Yarn according to claim 63 having about 40 to about 300 filaments per yarn.

74. Yarn according to claim 73 having a bulk level of about 2 to about 20%.

75. Yarn according to claim 74 having a Plug Crush Recovery of at least about 87%.

76. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 75.

77. Carpet having a pile surface comprising yarn according to claim 62.